

REMARKS

Applicant had a telephone interview with the Examiner on May 20, 2003.

Based on the interview, Applicant has amended Claims 1-4 above as requested by the Examiner.

Merdem does not disclose a beverage carrier for beverage containers, but discloses a beverage container. Therefore, claims 1-4 are not obvious over Merdem in view of Massouda.


Applicant believes that the Application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,


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CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A laminated beverage carrier for beverage containers comprising a laminated composite sheet folded and secured in the configuration of a box, said sheet comprising a non-corrugated base layer of unbleached cellulosic fibers and having an inner surface and an outer surface, an outer layer of separately formed non-corrugated paper having an inner surface and an outer surface, printed graphics disposed on the outer surface of the outer layer, and adhesive disposed between the inner surface of the outer layer and the outer surface of the base layer and serving to bond the outer layer to said base layer, the inner surface of said outer layer being bonded continuously to the outer surface of said base layer.

2. (Currently Amended) The laminated beverage carrier for beverage containers of claim 1 wherein said cellulosic fibers are selected from the group consisting of unbleached virgin kraft pulp and recycled pulp.

3. (Currently Amended) The laminated beverage carrier for beverage containers of claim 1 further comprising a layer of water absorbent material disposed on the inner surface of said base layer.

4. (Currently Amended) The laminated beverage carrier for beverage containers of claim 3 further comprising a film of water resistant adhesive bonding said absorbent material to said base layer.

5. Withdrawn

6. Withdrawn

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